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COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS
AND THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY

Note verbale dated 13 June 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to transmit herewith the text of the message of H.E. Mr. Tsutomu Hata, Prime Minister of Japan, to the Organization of African Unity on the occasion of its thirtieth summit meeting, which convenes in Tunisia on 13 June 1994 (see annex).

It would be very much appreciated if arrangements could be made to have this message circulated to Member States as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 32 of the preliminary list.

* A/49/50/Rev.1.

ANNEX

Message dated 13 June 1994 from the Prime Minister of Japan to the Chairman of the Organization of African Unity

It gives me very great pleasure to offer you and all the other members of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) my warmest congratulations on the occasion of the thirtieth summit of OAU. This summit will be an historic meeting, welcoming the Republic of South Africa to OAU following the establishment of that country's new government of national unity, one of the main goals of OAU ever since the organization's birth.

I would also like to express our gratitude to you for inviting Japan to be present at this historic meeting.

There have been spectacular developments in South Africa. The fact remains, however, that the African continent still faces many difficulties, in the areas of economic development, democratization, conflict and so on. I am greatly encouraged to see with what determination and persistence the countries of Africa are striving to overcome those difficulties by their own efforts.

The host and co-organizing country of the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) of October 1993, the Government of Japan intends to respond with all possible support and assistance for such self-help efforts of the African countries. On this occasion, I am pleased to reiterate my country's continued dedication to African development for a prosperous future, in close consultation with the African nations and other donor nations.

I also welcome OAU's decision to establish within the organization a mechanism for conflict prevention, management and resolution, convinced that this is very positive evidence of the determination to see "Africans resolving the conflicts of Africa". I greatly hope that the newly introduced mechanism will fulfil its purposes.

The decision of my Government to send to the summit, in response to your very kind invitation, Ambassador Yasushi Kurokochi, formerly special envoy of Japan to TICAD and an unfailing friend of Africa, will, I am convinced, be seen as clear proof of Japan's unswerving desire to assist Africa.

I look forward to learning of the fruits of this OAU summit meeting, which I am confident will, under your outstanding presidency, be a very great success.